

Effigy Mounds

National Monument

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Junior Ranger Activity Booklet



PROTECT



LEARN

EXPLORE



Dear Junior Ranger Candidate:

Welcome to Effigy Mounds National Monument! The Junior Ranger program was created to help children EXPLORE the national parks and monuments, LEARN about the national parks and monuments, and to understand them well enough to want to PROTECT them. If you would like to earn an official Junior Ranger badge, please follow these instructions:

- 1) Fill in your name, address, and age on next page.
- 2) Complete the activities from this booklet required for your age level.
A parent, adult, or ranger must verify the completion of each activity.
- 3) Turn in your booklet at the visitor center or mail it to:

Junior Ranger Program
Effigy Mounds National Monument
151 HWY 76
Harpers Ferry, IA 52146

Junior Ranger badges are available at the visitor center desk or by mail. There is no cost. Junior Ranger patches are also available for purchase in the visitor center.

- 4) Your booklet will be returned to you as a reminder of your visit to Effigy Mounds National Monument.

This booklet is designed to help you explore Effigy Mounds National Monument. When you watch the film, visit the museum, hike the trails and attend ranger programs you will gain:

- *An understanding and appreciation of the early American Indian people that inhabited this area so long ago.
- *An understanding and appreciation of the natural environment here and along the Upper Mississippi River Valley.
- *A knowledge of the National Park Service's mission to preserve and protect natural and cultural resources.

Good luck and have a great time!



EXPLORE • LEARN • PROTECT



Name: _____

Address: _____

Age: _____

☐ Little Bear Ages 6-7

The smallest bear effigy in the monument, Little Bear is 87 feet long and only about two feet high. Outlined in gravel, this mound is the first effigy you see on the Fire Point Trail. Complete 5 activities in this booklet.

☐ Bird of Prey Ages 8-10

Some of the bird mounds have wings that are angled back like falcons, making them look like they are diving. Bird mounds almost always are facing water and might represent birds that we still see today along the Mississippi River. Complete 7 activities in this booklet.

☐ Great Bear Ages 11-12

At 137 feet long and over three feet high, Great Bear is largest bear effigy mound in the monument. While most bear mounds face downstream, Great Bear is mysteriously facing the other way! Complete 8 activities in this booklet.



WHAT'S RIGHT, WHAT'S WRONG?

In order to PROTECT our national monuments and preserve them for others to visit, we must take care of the monument. While visiting Effigy Mounds National Monument, decide which things are okay to do and circle them.



- Smell the flowers
- Keep dogs on a leash
- Dig in the Indian mounds for souvenirs
- Feed the wild animals
- Put litter in a trash can
- Pull a squirrel's tail
- Pick the flowers
- Throw rocks off Fire Point
- Walk on the mounds
- Say "HI" to a park ranger
- Touch a tree
- Use binoculars to look out over the river
- Carve your name in a rock

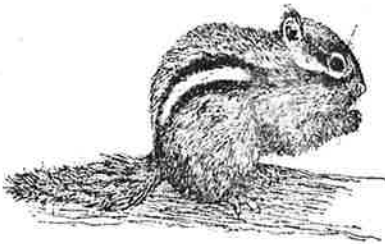
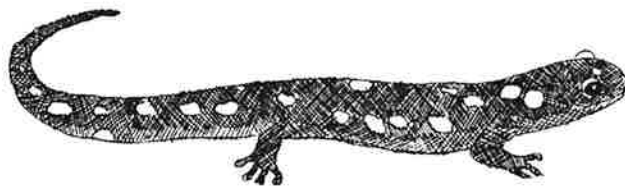


Image Credit: U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service

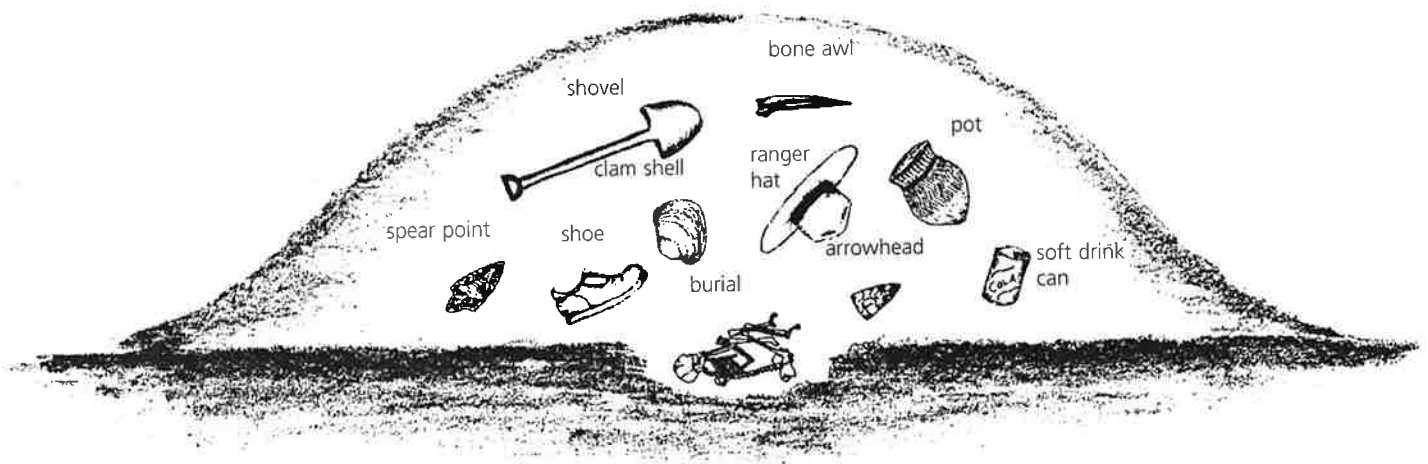


WHAT BELONGS IN THE MOUND?

While you EXPLORE the monument, LEARN about the mounds and the artifacts that would have been buried in them.

Find and circle six things that could be found in an undisturbed prehistoric Indian burial mound.

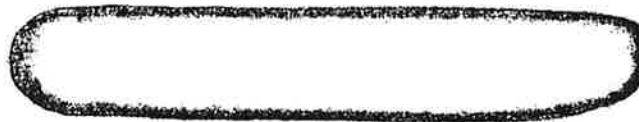
Cross out the things that do not belong.



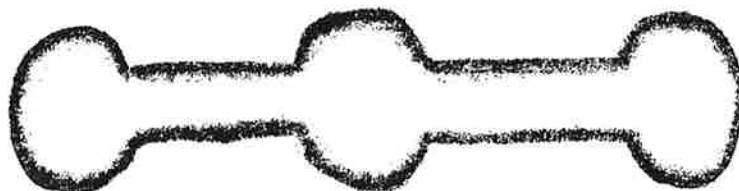
MATCH THE MOUNDS

LEARN about the different types of mounds that the Indians of the Woodland Culture built. Then draw a line to the correct mound shape from its description.

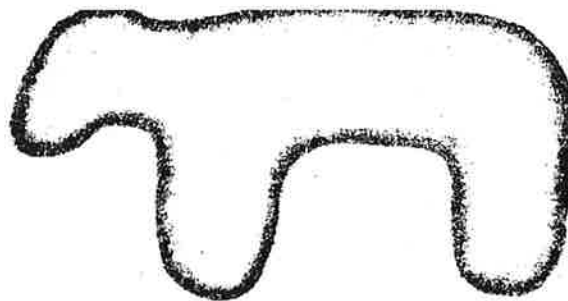
Effigy Mound - The term effigy refers to mounds built in the shape of something. Here at Effigy Mounds National Monument, we have effigy mounds in the shape of bears and birds.



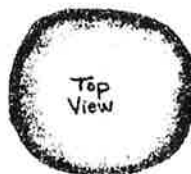
Conical Mound - Round, dome shaped mounds three to ten feet high and approximately ten feet across. Some can be bigger, some can be smaller.



Linear Mound - Long, fat, hot dog shaped mounds in lengths from 50 to 300 feet long and up to 10 feet wide.



Compound Mound - Conical mounds connected to linear mounds. Most consist of three conical mounds and two linear mounds, but there is one at Effigy Mounds National Monument that has seven conicals and is 300 feet long.



PICTURE THE PAST

While you are EXPLORING the monument...
Visit the museum, watch the film, and/or go on a hike with a ranger
to LEARN the answers to the following questions.

Compare your life to the life of a
Woodland Indian your age living 1,000 years ago.

WOODLAND INDIAN

Where they lived in the winter: _____

How they would get their food: _____

What they did for fun: _____

Where they put someone who had died: _____

Who they would be with at a feast or celebration:

How they would know it is dinnertime: _____

Which ways of life of the Woodland Indian are similar to yours?

Which ones are different?

YOU

Where you live in the winter: _____

How you get your food: _____

What you do for fun: _____

Where you put someone who has died: _____

Who you would be with at a feast or celebration:

How you know it is dinnertime: _____



National Parks Word Search

There are currently over 390 areas in the national park system and the oldest one is Yellowstone National Park which was created in 1872. Iowa has two, Herbert Hoover National Historic Site and Effigy Mounds National Monument.

T O C M U L G E E W I N D C A V E G S V
P N Y H Q F J L M T R U S H M O R E E S
I D E V I L S T O W E R D X Y U B H D P
P R O C K Y M O U N T A I N B Y R N T G
E R A T Q U K X A N S G L S O S A T N D
S R T R Y N U Z E Y A X Y L I L V H I W
T C P W C Q D A M O N T F R S C U A O C
O C B E U H L B M R T O T I U S I A E H
N M A H D L E L A E H K E V B S B C U A
E V I A S K H S G T O L D V A C G A Y C
G D S Y H E R B E R T H O O V E R D E O
M O S O S H Z T B S B G O K M O V I L C
Z D E N A L I R O Q O A N R T Y E A L U
F W F E M M I P D H B A D L A N D S O L
E S U L E G A Y W N A B R L H I S C W T
R J X S H E N A N D O A H Y A S Z F S U
F J O I A N D E R S O N V I L L E T T R
R Y Q V V O Y A G E U R S M I D D W O E
H I X R X E F F I G Y M O U N D S S N R
J Z A M W A R N V X T J O L F A Q T E L

ACADIA

ANDERSONVILLE

APOSTLE ISLANDS

ARCHES

BADLANDS

CHACO CULTURE

DENALI

DEVILS TOWER

EFFIGY MOUNDS

GETTYSBURG

HERBERT HOOVER

MT. RUSHMORE

OCMULGEE

PIPESTONE

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

SHENANDOAH

VOYAGEURS

WIND CAVE

YELLOWSTONE

YOSEMITE



Match These Other National Park Sites

Draw a line matching the name of the park to its picture



Saratoga



Mesa Verde



Herbert Hoover
(Birthplace)

Great Smoky
Mountains



Grand Canyon



Mount Rushmore

Devils Tower

Yellowstone



PHOTOS BY NPS

The History of the Mounds

Read this short introduction to **LEARN** about the mound builders who lived in this area. Then match the pictures with the underlined words in the paragraphs. Some of the numbers have more than one answer, **YOU JUST NEED ONE**.

To many American Indians, Effigy Mounds National Monument is a sacred site. It is a (1) cemetery or burial site for many of their ancestors (great, great, great grandparents). The effigy mounds people lived here around 700 A.D. and their (2) homes were made from willow and cattails. They lived in the (3) Mississippi River Valley because they could easily find food along the river banks and they could hunt for their (4) food in the bluffs. The people who lived here also were able to use (5) plants for medicine.

The people built effigy (6) mounds and many of them survived the years because they were built on top of the (7) bluffs. The American Indians built them by outlining animals like (8) bears and birds on the ground. Then they would dig out the form, put in the rocks to build a firepit for their ceremonies, and fill it back up with dirt. They would continue to fill it up using baskets and deer (9) bones as rakes and shovels. When they finished, the mounds looked a lot like very, very big (10) "Animal Crackers".

1. _____

5. _____

8. _____

2. _____

6. _____

9. _____

3. _____

7. _____

10. _____

4. _____



A. Modern burial site



B. Wickiup



C. Bone gardening tool



D. Hills along the river



E. Little Bear Effigy



F. Wild rice collection





G. River mussels



H. The "Big" river



I. American ginseng



J. Ancient burial mounds



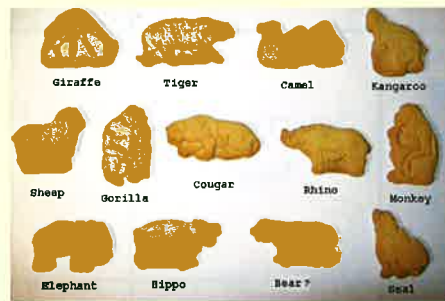
K. Ancient cemetery



L. Whitetail deer



M. Bellflower



N. Animal Crackers



O. Maquoketa Caves



P. Acorns



Q. A high hill near the river



R. The "Father of Waters"



S. Echinacea



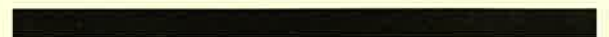
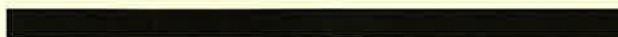
T. Animal bone tools



U. Corn



V. Bergamot tea



PHOTOS BY WI DNR, IA DNR, USDA, USGS, AND NPS

EFFIGY MOUNDS SCAVENGER HUNT BINGO

As you **EXPLORE** the museum and trails at Effigy Mounds National Monument, you will see and hear many different things. Observe any of the items in the squares below and make an X through it. Get five in a row up, down, across, or diagonally and you have BINGO! Remember to check the exhibits in the visitor center and museum!



Eagle or Turkey
Vulture



Animal Track



Boat on the
Mississippi
River

Leaf Chewed by
an Insect



Bird Nest

Great Bear
Mound



Bird Singing

Squirrel Leaf
Nest

Bird Feather

Little Bear
Mound



Wild Mammal



Maple Tree

Piece of Litter
(please pick it up!)



Frog Calling

Conical Mound



Fork
in the Trail

Spider Web



Dog on a Leash

Mosquito

Park Ranger



Reptile or
Amphibian



Compound
Mound

A Fern



Den Hole
in a Tree

Mushroom or
Fungi



ANIMAL SCRAMBLE & MATCH

Unscramble the letters below to discover what each animal is.
Then LEARN about each animal by matching the number of the animal with its description.

1. DLWI RKUTYE

2. REBVEA

3. DIPRES

4. AESKN

5. ETIALWIHT EERD

6. SQTIMOOU

7. ULSERQIR

8. NORCACO

A. I have 8 legs and up to 8 eyes. I like to eat insects after spinning a web to trap them in. _____

B. I am a large brownish mammal that many people think is beautiful. A male is called a buck and a female, a doe. _____

C. I am the mammal you are most likely to see while walking the trails at Effigy Mounds. I will ignore you if I am busy gathering nuts. _____

D. I am a big bird, but you don't see me fly too often. Ben Franklin wanted me to be the national bird, but the eagle was chosen instead. Thanksgiving is a holiday I do not like. _____

E. I am nocturnal, meaning I hunt for my food at night. I like to eat seeds, insects, and berries. If you are camping and leave food unattended, I might steal it. I guess that's why I'm a Masked Bandit. _____

F. I am North America's largest rodent, growing up to 46 inches long, including my flat tail. My front teeth are sharp and help me cut trees down to build a dam or lodge. _____

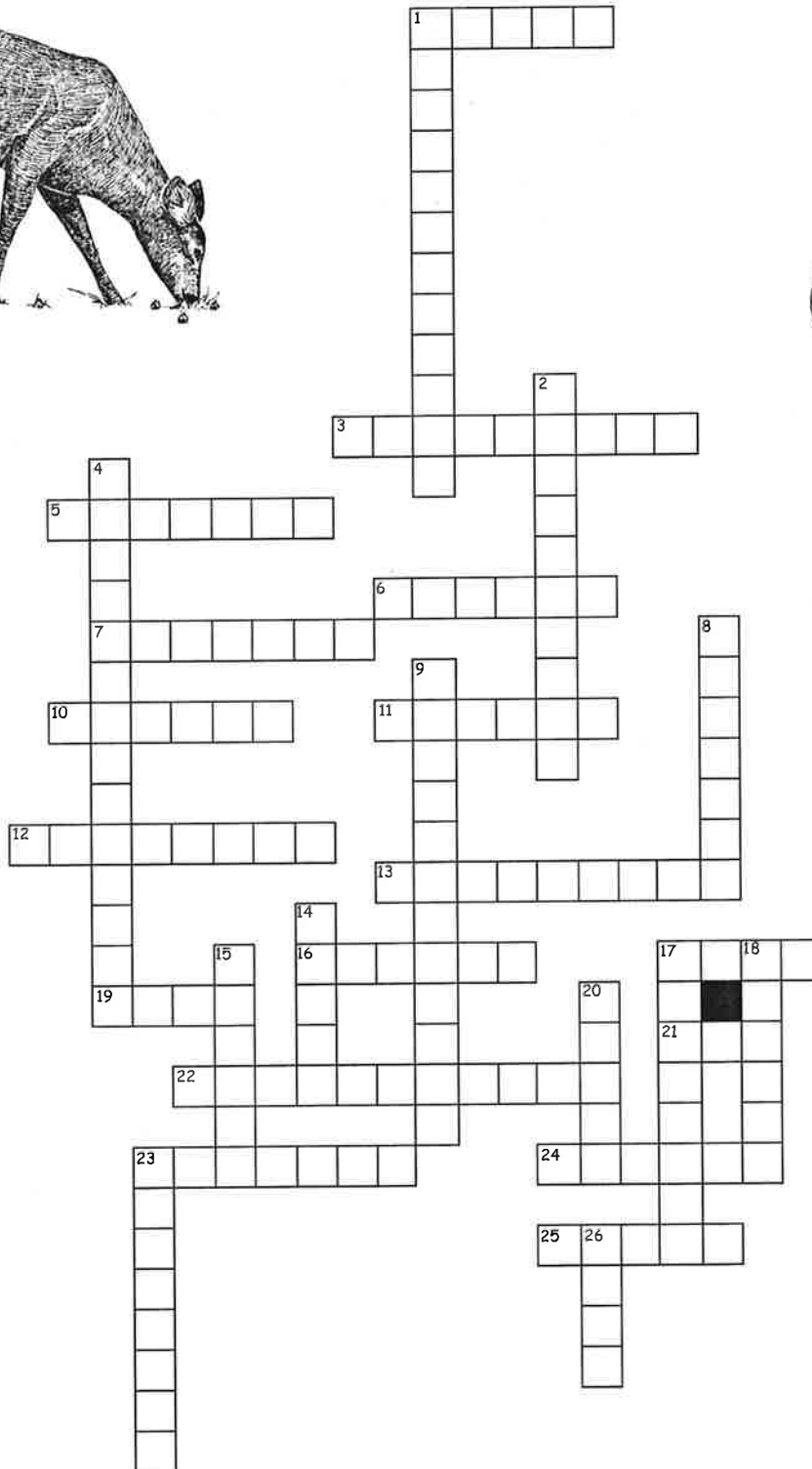
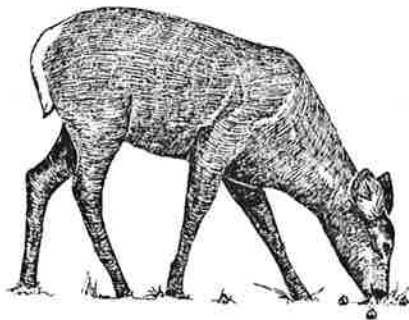
G. Many people think I'm a real pest, but I'm just doing my job. Only the females of my species are the ones that bother you, as they try to draw blood for protein to lay eggs. _____

H. Don't jump, don't be scared! I'm just coiled up on this rock enjoying the sunshine. When I get hungry, I'll slither away and eat a mouse. _____



EFFIGY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Read the park brochure, see the film, visit the museum, and/or go on a ranger-guided hike to fill in the crossword puzzle and test what you have LEARNED.



ACROSS

1. This huge bird can have a wingspan of 6 1/2 feet and has a white head when it is mature.
3. The view from here includes the Mississippi River and Prairie du Chien, WI. Ashes found in the mounds here give this place its name. (2 words)
5. Tall grassy area that is sometimes set on fire to rejuvenate the plants.
6. A person in the park who can answer your questions, help you, or lead you on a hike.
7. From an overlook, you may see one of these pushing barges upriver.
10. The river between the North and South Units of Effigy Mounds National Monument.
11. Moundbuilders _____ for exotic items like copper, obsidian, mica, and ocean shells.
12. Type of mound made up of conical and linear mounds.
13. Beware of this plant in the woods "itching" to get you. (2 words)
16. This type of tree has an acorn that Native Americans ground up and used for food. (2 words)
17. Some spiders build these to trap insects.
19. A large animal the Woodland Indians hunted for food, especially in the winter.
21. Ellison _____, the man who studied the mounds in the early 1930s.
22. The grand river that can be seen from the overlooks on the monument's trails.
23. Places to look at and study artifacts and art of past cultures.
24. Prehistoric spear thrower.
25. At Effigy Mounds National Monument, there are effigy mounds in the shape of bears and _____.

DOWN

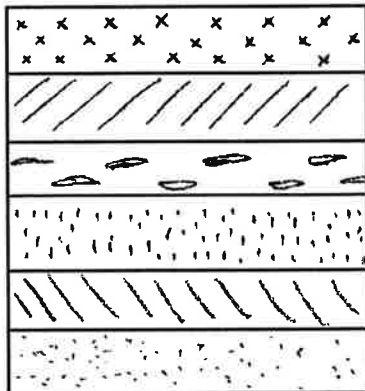
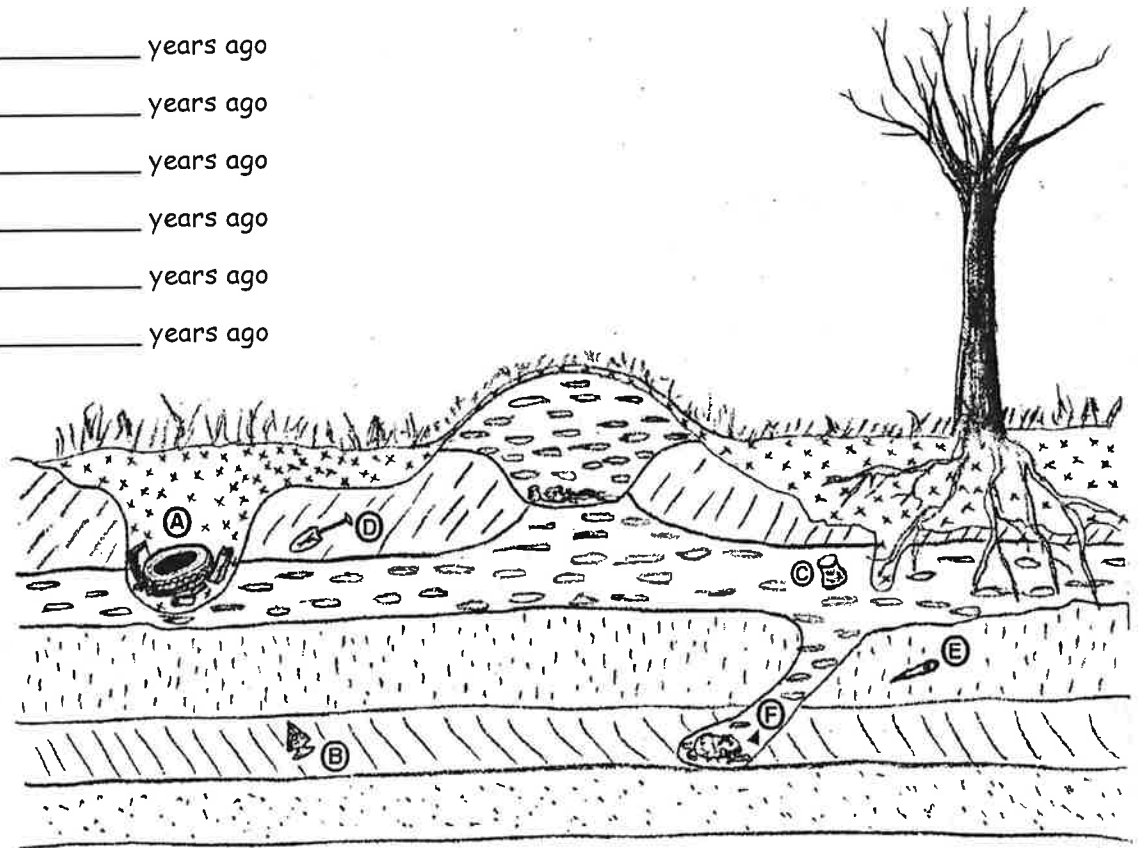
1. The name of the film shown regularly at Effigy Mounds National Monument about people who shaped the earth.
2. A bird you might hear tapping at trees as it looks for insects.
4. The largest effigy mound in the North Unit. (3 words)
8. The Woodland Indians made this out of clay to store food and to cook in.
9. A person who studies the artifacts of a past culture.
14. Listen carefully and you might hear these amphibians calling near the water, especially at night.
15. Effigy Mounds National Monument has over 13 miles of these you can hike on.
17. The name given to the Native Americans who built the mounds.
18. One of the things sometimes found in a mound.
20. The type of material used to make stone tools.
23. You might encounter one of these pesky insects on your hike.
26. The state in which Effigy Mounds National Monument is located.

DIGGING DEEP

When archeologists study artifacts of prehistoric peoples, they usually discover the deeper an object is in the ground, the older it is. But not always! Watch out for disturbances in the soil.

Using the diagram and key below, match the time period of each soil section with the artifact found in the ground.

Artifact	Time Period
A. Tire	_____ years ago
B. Spear Point	_____ years ago
C. Pot	_____ years ago
D. Shovel	_____ years ago
E. Bone Awl	_____ years ago
F. Arrowhead	_____ years ago



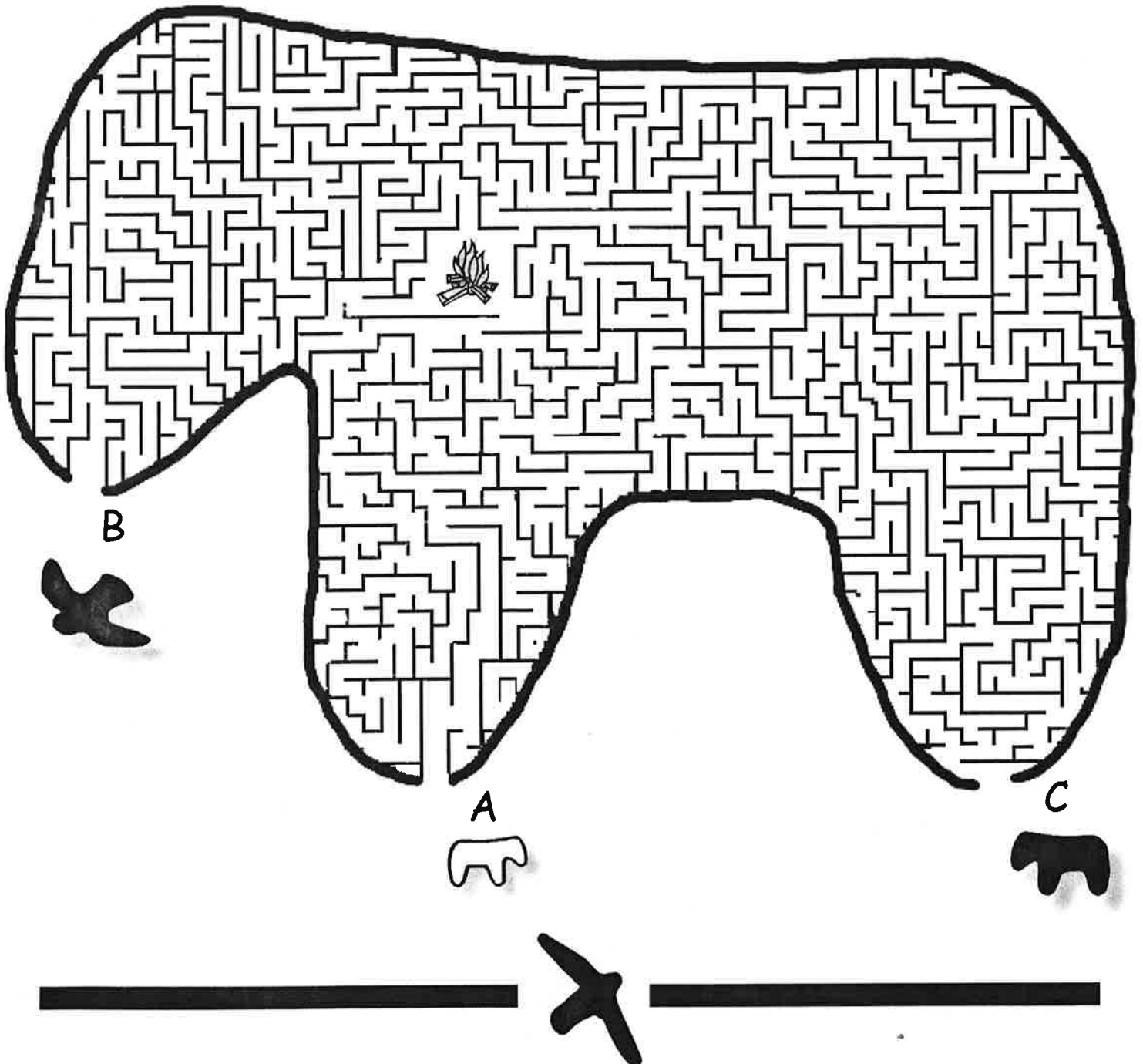
- 0-10 years ago
- 10-200 years ago
- 200-800 years ago
- 800-1,500 years ago
- 1,500-8,000 years ago
- 8,000+ years ago



BEAR MAZE

While you are EXPLORING Effigy Mounds National Monument you will see many mounds. The effigy mounds are in the shapes of bears and birds. This national monument was created to PROTECT these mounds. We PROTECT them by not walking over them and we would appreciate it if you will help PROTECT them for future generations.

Find your way to the ceremonial fire pit located in the heart of the bear mound. Little Bears start at A, Diving Birds start at B, and Great Bears start at C.



ADOPT-A-TREE

While EXPLORING the trails at Effigy Mounds National Monument, you might encounter the tree that is "just right for you." If so, you can adopt that tree! When you have found the perfect tree, answer the following questions. Then come back to Effigy Mounds National Monument time and time again to check on your tree, PROTECT your tree and give it a hug!

Where is your tree?

(Describe its location along the trail. Example: On the right side of the trail just before Little Bear Mound.)

What kind of tree is it?

What do you think this tree has seen over the years of its life?

Do you think the tree is older or younger than you?

Does anything use this tree as a home?

Give your tree a name:



This is to certify that _____

has adopted above said tree by the name of _____

_____ within the boundaries of

Effigy Mounds National Monument. The above named person will treat this tree with respect and honor, including the environment in which the tree is found.

Certified this day _____

Signed _____

(Park Ranger)





JUNIOR RANGER

Effigy Mounds National Monument

This Certifies that

has successfully completed all the requirements to be granted the title of **JUNIOR RANGER** for taking an active interest in Effigy Mounds National Monument

Explore, Learn, Protect: Be A Junior Ranger!



Junior Ranger Pledge: I promise to learn about other national parks, to protect the land, and continue to explore nature.

_____ Park Ranger

_____ Date



Eastern National promotes the public's understanding and support of America's national parks and other public trust partners by providing quality educational experiences, products, and services.



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.